



# Almaden Winery Neighborhood Association



Volume 11, Issue 4

September 4, 2006

**NEXT MEETING:**

SEP 6, 7:00 PM  
SOCIAL BEGINS AT  
6:45 PM

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## *AWNA Meeting Wed, Sep 6, 7:00 PM*

**Location:** Community Center Building (2-story brick building at the south end of the Winery Park)

Pizza Social starts at 6:45PM

Pizza and drinks provided.

**Agenda Items:**

- Signal Light at Chambertin/Blossom Hill Intersection
- Current City of San Jose Issues
- AWNA Annual Picnic
- Halloween Party & Parade - Sat, Oct 28<sup>th</sup>
- Revitalization of the Park Committee
- AWNA Website Update
- Open Forum / New Issues
- General Announcements and Community Interest Items
- Wrap-up

If you're coming to the meeting, bring a friend or neighbor! This is a very important meeting because plans are being finalized for the various fall AWNA activities and volunteers will be needed.

## *San Jose Mayoral Candidates Forum*

A Candidates' Forum for the San Jose Mayoral Race will be hosted by the Cambrian Community Council on Wednesday, Sept. 13, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. The forum will be held at the Cambrian School District Board Chambers at 4115 Jacksol Drive, San Jose. Jacksol Drive is off Woodward Road between Bascom and Union. The forum will include an opportunity for audience input for questions and answers. Contact 408-507-6050 if you have any questions

## *Proposed Changes to Traffic Light at Chambertin- Blossom Hill*

The issue of the traffic light at the Chambertin Drive and Blossom Hill Road intersection will be the major topic of discussion at the AWNA meeting on Sep 6th. .

**Brief History:** Over the last 10 years, the community has asked the City to review why passing straight through the intersection is prohibited. The reason: when the developments were first planned in the early 1990s, the neighborhood across the street on Dartmouth asked for this restriction believing that our development would lead to much increased traffic down their street.

Recently, we asked the City to review this issue again. The City has reviewed the planning documents and has communicated back to us. Here is an excerpt of the City's communication:

"Our office has been working with Planning, Public Works, and the Department of Transportation (DOT) regarding the traffic signal at the intersection of Chambertin Drive and Blossom Hill Road..

*(Continued on page 2)*

*(Traffic Light—Continued from page 1)*

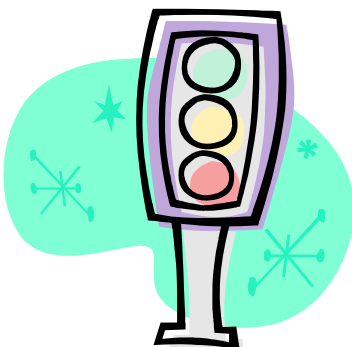
The Almaden Winery Neighborhood Association has been seeking to go straight (heading north) through the intersection, which currently only allows right or left turns.

Reports back from Public Works and DOT have let us know that Both departments are comfortable with the modification being proposed by Awna if:

- The required striping, signing, and signal head modifications are funded by Awna
- A community process is executed which outlines the proposal
- The City can obtain consensus from the adjacent communities.

On a procedural level, the Awna must file a Planned Development Permit Amendment to remove the restriction."

City of San Jose representatives will be present to speak to us about this and to answer questions. We are going to need some folks to step up to help drive this forward - in perhaps a small committee. One person has already volunteered to help out, but we'll need perhaps 1 or 2 more. So, if you want to know more about this issue and to drive for change, you have to come to the meeting.



## Youth Lot Usage After Dark

By Karen Van Dyke

The advantages to our neighborhood offered by the park's youth lot since it opened nearly two years ago have been substantial: walking distance to safe and enjoyable exercise for our children, increased social opportunities within the neighborhood and with others in the community, an attractive setting for birthday parties and neighborhood celebrations, and a smart use of a section of the park that once resembled a moonscape. We are very fortunate to have such a wonderful resource in such close proximity to our homes.

However, those of us who live right on the park have been forced to bear a greater price than most Almaden Winery neighborhood residents for that resource: park visits that extend well past dark. And for those of us with young children, these after-hours visits magnify the already formidable challenge of "bedtime" exponentially. Clearly it is unfair to expect any child to fall asleep to the sound of shrieks from excited children on a tire swing only several yards below his or her bedroom window. Additionally, several non-emergency calls to the San Jose police have been necessary to clear gatherings in the wee hours of rowdy teenagers who generate a lot of noise and abuse our hard-earned play equipment.

According to the San Jose police department, parks are officially open from sunrise to sunset; there is no written law about exact times for parks that do not require a fee. As summer comes

to a close and schools re-open, the desire to peek-out a few more post-dinner gatherings at the park while the weather is nice will occur to more than a few of us. And since daylight savings time isn't for another few weeks, this means that many of us will be putting young children to bed when it is light or dusk on a school night, well into the fall semester.

As a member of the planning and fund-raising committee that put the youth lot where it is, I am thrilled and gratified to see the volume of use our new playground receives and the obvious joy it provides for so many. But on behalf of the dozens of families with homes within earshot of the lot, I am appealing to neighbors to be mindful of their watches during evening visits to the park.

## Annual Halloween Party and Parade

Since the fall season is approaching, we'll need to gather volunteers to coordinate this annual activity. Target date: Oct 28th. We'll be discussing this at our Sep 6th meeting. Hope you can come! If not, and are willing to volunteer, contact me at: [mtkubiniec@cs.com](mailto:mtkubiniec@cs.com).



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PRESIDENTS CLUB

## *Park Committee Needs Revitalization*

The Park Committee needs an injection of new blood! Several members, yours included, just cannot devote the time any longer. We have about \$1400 in grant money left over that has not yet been spent because we don't have someone to manage the grant project. The details of the project are already spelled out. We just need someone or perhaps a couple of folks to help lead this effort. Note - this can involve coordinating community volunteers to complete the work or it can mean that someone is hired to do the work. We've always dreamed about doing more in the park too! Here is your chance to lay the foundation for moving this forward. Come to the meeting on Sep 6th know more or contact me at [mtkubiniec@cs.com](mailto:mtkubiniec@cs.com).

## *Add Your Name To The AWNA Email Distribution*

The AWNA email distribution list reaches about 180 people. There are 360 homes in our neighborhood. No spam—guaranteed. Your email address will never be used for commercial purposes. The hardcopy newsletter is intended to reach the entire neighborhood. But through email, you can receive more timely information. To be added to the distribution list: email me at: [mtkubiniec@cs.com](mailto:mtkubiniec@cs.com).

## *AWNA Annual Picnic*

We did not have a summer picnic this summer - mainly due to the fact those who have volunteered in the past are no longer able to commit their time. But there appears to be some interest in still having a picnic, and the thought is to have it in September. Perhaps, Sep 16 or 23. This actually is a better idea than past years since it won't be so hot this time of the year. A few folks have expressed an interest in volunteering, but we will need more volunteers. This item will be on the agenda at our Sep 6th meeting.

## *AWNA Newsletter Coordinator Found*

You may have noticed that we have not published a newsletter in quite a while—since February. We have been looking for someone to coordinate this activity since our previous “Publisher”, Jim Graham, could no longer do this. And we have found her! Tresor neighbor, Pam Cornelison, has volunteered to take on this very important responsibility. Thank you very much Pam! Therefore, we will try to publish a newsletter approximately every two months. Anyone can submit an article for inclusion in the newsletter. Pam's email address is on page 1. Finally, a big THANK YOU to Jim Graham for serving as newsletter publisher over the last four years. His dedication and devotion for putting out such a quality product for all of us to read and enjoy were highly commendable. Well done Jim!!!

## *Water Plant 50th Year - Tours and Open House*

Protecting water quality in San Francisco Bay has been the pivotal mission for the past half-century at the San Jose/Santa Clara Water Pollution Control Plant, located just east of Alviso in North San Jose.

The dedicated people who operate and govern the Plant cordially invite you to visit on Saturday, October 14, 2006, and participate in a set of open houses and tours. All who are interested in protecting the environment and endangered species over the next 50 years or are just curious about how these complex plants work are encouraged to attend. Come celebrate 50 years of protecting and preserving the San Francisco Bay and look to the future.

Opening ceremonies will be at 10 a.m., followed by three open house sessions at 10:30 a.m., 12 noon, and 1:30 p.m. Children's activities will be provided. Space is limited; we ask that you please RSVP by e-mailing at [OpenHouse2006@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:OpenHouse2006@sanjoseca.gov) or calling (408) 975-2613 by Monday, October 2. Please indicate your preferred session time.

The Plant is one of the largest advanced wastewater treatment facilities in California, with capacity to treat up to 167 million gallons of wastewater per day. It serves an area larger than 300 square miles, over 1.5 million people, and 16,000 commercial and industrial facilities in the cities of San José, Santa Clara, Milpitas, Campbell, Cupertino, Los Gatos, Saratoga, Monte Sereno and selected unincorporated areas.

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Each Office is Independently Owned & Operated.

(Water Plant - Continued from page 3)  
rated areas within Santa Clara County. The Plant plays a vital role in protecting and preserving San Francisco Bay and has received numerous awards during its 50 years of service. To find out how you can do your part to preserve the Bay, go to <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/esd/>.

## 15th Annual Adult Services Resource Faire

This annual faire, offers information to senior and dependent adult community members on programs and services available to them through a myriad of community based organizations, federal, state, and local programs, as well as the opportunity for some free health check-ups and obtaining free giveaways.

Date: October 5, 2006  
Time: 9:00 AM—1:00 PM  
765 Story Road  
(Behind Walmart)  
San Jose, CA

Workshops:  
9:00 AM - Medicare Part D  
10:00 AM - Department of Aging and Adult Services: What can DAAS help you with?"  
11:00 AM - Arthritis: Alternative approaches to preventing and relieving joint disease  
12:00 PM - Financial planning for Seniors

Health Screenings: Glucose, Blood Pressure, Cholesterol, Bone Density, Stress Evaluation, Vision, Skin Cancer

Free flu shots for eligible at risk individuals.

First 250 attendees receive a free gift.

### Your Business Card Could Be Here!

If you are a resident of the Almaden Winery neighborhood, you can advertise your business while supporting the Almaden Winery Neighborhood association. For additional information, contact:  
Mike Kubinieć,  
[mtkubiniec@cs.com](mailto:mtkubiniec@cs.com).